THE ANSWER OF THE Deputie Lieutenants OF THE Countie of DEVON, TO THE DECLARATION of Sir RALPH HOPTON and other his trayterous Adherents that have lately in an hoſtile manner invaded the ſaid *Countie*, and plundered, and pillaged many of the Inhabitants thereof.

LONDON,
Printed by *R. Olton* and *G. Dexter*, for *Henry Overton*, and are to be ſold at his Shop in *Popes head Alley*.
MDCXLII.

THE ANSVVERE OF The Deputy Lieutenants of the *County* of *Devon.* to the Declaration of Sir RALRH HOPTON and other his traiterous Adherents, that have lately in an hoſtile manner invaded the ſaid County, and plundered, and pillaged many of the Inhabitants thereof.

In the Preſence and feare of Almighty GOD *the ſearcher of all Hearts, and judge of all Men, Wee thus declare.*

1. THat wee never did, nor ever will take Armes, but in all true Loyalty to his Majeſtie, the Defence of the eſtabliſhed Religion, his Majeſties juſt Prerogative, and the Liberties of the Engliſh Subject, in the Rights of *Parliament.*

2. That the occaſion of this Warre is given by thoſe that by injurious calumniation, and falſe ſurmiſes of the *Parliaments* intention to leſſen, or abate his Majeſties Royall Prerogative for the future, have withdrawn his Majeſties perſon and affection from that his great Connſell.

3. That the Perſons of all the Lord Lieutenants were approved by his Majeſtie ; that moſt of theſe Lords and their Deputies were formerly imploy'd in the ſaid Service.

That the Warre in *Sommerſetſhire* was begun upon thoſe that were peaceably marching to a Muſter in the ordinary way.

4. That ſome of thoſe that were perſecuted for raiſing that Warre, were the men that infeſted *Cornwall* and now *Devonſhire* with violence and oppreſſion.

5. That the Sheriffes raiſing of the power of the County is unjuſt, becauſe the Muſters by authority of *Parliament* are no unlawfull Aſſemblies.

6. That the Commiſſion of *Array* is illegall, becauſe ſo declared in *Parliament*, after it had beene preſented and petitioned againſt as a grievance, by ſome Counties, amongſt the reſt this of *Devonſhire*, becauſe it is in many points oppoſite to the Liberty of the Subject, and cannot be executed with equity.

7. That the Commiſſion of *Array*, and the Sheriffes power now put in execution againſt the *Parliaments* proceedings, are breaches of the *Peace*, and deſtructive to the Kingdome, in raiſing a Civill Warre within it; and to Religion, by hindring the ſuppreſſion of the Rebellion in *Ireland*, and by inciting the Papiſts to joyne with the *Array* Forces in *England*.

8. That all thoſe that take Armes againſt the *Parliament*, and their Defenders, doe falſifie their Poteſtation generally taken, and doe cauſe a breach of his Majeſties promiſe, and as we believe his gracious intention, not to make Warre againſt his Parliament.

9. That no Subject can truely keepe his Oath of Allegiance, that doth not keep his Proteſtation, the Oath of

of Allegiance being made to the King as his Liege or lawfull Lord.

10. That ſuch as make Warre upon the *Parliament*, doe what in them lies to deſtroy all *Parliaments*, and conſequently to change the goverment of the Kingdome by Statute Lawes, and Courts of Juſtice, into an Arbitrary Goverment, which is no leſſe then Treaſon.

Theſe grounds thus laid, being infallibly true, and ſince the perſon of his ſacred Majeſty is as it were made Captive to the wills of thoſe that for private ends and their impunity for Capitall offences, keep his Majeſty from his great Councell: And ſince theſe Cavaliers that have fallen into Cornewall and now into Devonſhire, are of the ſame party and deſigne.

We can do no leſſe then forewarne all his Majeſties loving Subjects, not only of the illegallity of their proceedings, but alſo of the dangerous and inevitable evill conſequently falling upon this Kingdom, if they ſhould prevaile. And to invite all ſuch as love his Majeſty, and deſire to maintaine the hearty affection of his people towards him and his poſterity, not to be allured by their perſwaſions and inſinuations of their loyalty, and our Rebellion, or by their threats of death, our deſtruction, to be terrified from their duties to God, the King, and the publique weale, but to ſtand firme for the holy truth which they have profeſſed in all loyalty, as they have proteſted, not ſparing their Purſes or their paines, or the hazard of their lives for the defence thereof.

And whereas divers of the good Subjects of this Country have been lately ſeduced through feare to obey their unlawfull and pernitious commands,

though they cannot but ſee them tending to their own ruine, we do invite them to returne to their firſt profeſſed Allegiance and duty to the King and Parliament, and we ſhall be ready to imbrace them in the Armes of Chriſtian Love and friendſhip, and be their Mediators to the Parliament for their full reconciliation, if we finde it to be done ſpeedily and really.

And whereas great ſcandall hath been taken, and many feares put into the peoples minds, that our Troupers and Dragoneers are Authorized to plunder and take away the goods of the Inhabitants of this County, we deſire that all men ſhould hereby know, that no Trouper or other Souldier, ever had any other Authority then to ſecure the perſons of noted oppoſites or to ſecure the Arms and Horſes for War, of ſuch as would turne them againſt us, or cannot keep them from the adverſe partie, for all other goods which have or may be taken in that manner, we diſavow the giving of any ſuch Authority, and will do our beſt to puniſh all ſuch as ſhall be found Delinquents in that kinde.

FINIS.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COPY IN THE

HENRY E. HUNTINGTON LIBRARY

FOR REFERENCE ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION